

Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) Notice of Inquiry  
NOI Docket 03-104

I am writing to express concerns about NOI Docket 03-104 (Broadband Over Power Line)

As a licensed Amateur Radio Operator for over 40 years, I am concerned that the ability for Amateur Radio to continue as a resource for Public Service and Emergency Communications might be severely compromised by the approval and operation of Broadband Over Power Line technology.

In over 40 years of activity as an Amateur Radio Operator I have held the concept of PICON (Public Interest, Convenience or Necessity) in the highest regard and have made my time and equipment available to community and governmental groups for emergency and other Public Service activities to fulfill my obligation as a user of the spectrum

My research shows a significant threat to all radio communications by the above referenced technology. Tests in Europe and other locations determined that Broadband Over Power Line (BPL) can cause significant interference to licensed users of the rf spectrum.

The present FCC Part 15 limits for this technology already can result in substantial interference potential to amateur frequencies.

BPL systems that radiate on wide swaths of spectrum and that occupy entire neighborhoods have greater interference potential than localized systems, such as switching power supplies or electric motors.

The threat is not only real for Amateur Radio Service operation, but also public safety, short-wave listeners, broadcasters, aircraft, business, maritime, military and other governmental services as well.

In so much as the FCC promotes good engineering practices, I request that any BPL operations be regulated in such a way that they do not cause interference with any licensed service. To allow anything less than protection of licensed services is to allow the potential for the severe disruption of a broad spectrum of rf communications.